

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED / ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER P67777US0
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/SE00/02101	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 27 October 2000	US APPLICATION NO. (if known) (37 CFR 75) 10/089072
TITLE OF INVENTION A TORQUE-LIMITING COUPLING DEVICE		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 29 October 1999
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Curt FALK		

Applicant herein submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information.

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for Internatl. Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the Internatl. Preliminary Examination report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information:
 - International Search Report – Sweden
 - PCT Request Form
 - PCT/IB/304 Form
 - PCT/IB/308 Form
 - First Page of Publication
 - International Preliminary Examination Report – No Annexes

US APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">10/089072</div>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO <div style="font-weight: bold;">PCT/SE00/02101</div>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER <div style="font-weight: bold;">P67777US0</div>	
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17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)): Internatl. prelim. examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1)) .. \$710.00 No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (2)) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) .. \$740.00 Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (3)) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO) \$1040.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (4)) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4) \$100.00 Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (5)) \$890.00 <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 50px;">ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</div> </div>				CALCULATIONS \$ 1040.00	PTO USE ONLY
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	

Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		
Total Claims	7 - 20 =	-0-	x \$18.00	\$	
Independent Claims	1 - 3 =	-0-	x \$84.00	\$	
Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$280.00	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 1040.00	
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity , if applicable. Verified Small Entity statement must also be filed. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 1040.00	

Processing fee of \$130 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f))				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 1040.00	
Fee of \$40.00 for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). Assignment must be accompanied by appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31).				\$ 40.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 1080.00	
				Amt. to be refunded:	\$
				Amt. charged:	\$

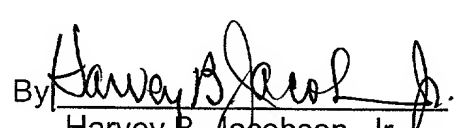
a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 1080.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.

b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 06-1358 in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge my account any additional fees set forth in §1.492 during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1358. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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By 
 Harvey B. Jacobson, Jr.
 Reg. No. 20,851

JPH&S 3/95

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Curt FALK
Serial No.: New
Filing Date: April 8, 2002
For: A TORQUE-LIMITING COUPLING DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following sentence on line 1, immediately following the title:

--This is a nationalization of PCT/SE00/02101, filed October 27, 2000 and published in English.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4-7 as follows:

4. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1, characterised in that the surface layer is comprised of tombak; and in that the co-acting surface of the other part is comprised of steel.

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5. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1, **characterised** in that said parts are mutually tensioned radially to establish said friction grip.

6. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1, **characterised** in that the surface layer includes cavities which allow the surface layer to take a radial thickness that is smaller than the radial distance between the surface of the base and the co-acting surface of said other part subsequent to plasticization and/or melting of the surface layer and radially relieving the parts of load.

7. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1, **characterised** in that the surface layers are comprised of a material whose coefficient of thermal expansion is higher than the coefficient thermal expansion of the base.

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

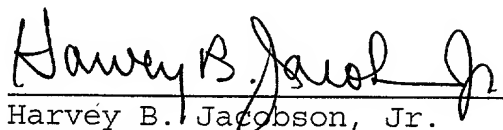
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

By



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Atty. Docket: P67777US0
Date: April 8, 2002
HBJ:jrc

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

4. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1-3~~, **characterised** in that the surface layer ~~(50)~~ is comprised of tombak; and in that the co-acting surface of the other part is comprised of steel.

5. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1-4~~, **characterised** in that said parts ~~(10, 20)~~ are mutually tensioned radially to establish said friction grip.

6. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1-5~~, **characterised** in that the surface layer ~~(50)~~ includes cavities which allow the surface layer to take a radial thickness that is smaller than the radial distance between the surface of the base and the co-acting surface ~~(22)~~ of said other part ~~(20)~~ subsequent to plasticization and/or melting of the surface layer ~~(50)~~ and radially relieving the parts ~~(10, 20)~~ of load.

7. (AMENDED) A device according to Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1-6~~, **characterised** in that the surface layers are comprised of a material whose coefficient of thermal expansion is higher than the coefficient thermal expansion of the base.

A TORQUE-LIMITING COUPLING DEVICE

The present invention relates to a torque-limiting coupling device of the kind defined in the preamble of Claim 1.

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A coupling device of the kind in question is disclosed in WO 90/00231. This known device generally functions well. Devices of this kind are often used in steel rolling mills between a drive motor, for instance an electric motor, and a roll. The power transferred may be in the order of 20,000 kW. Idling costs in respect of such a rolling mill may lie in the order of up to 100,000 SEK/hour.

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In the case of the areas of use concerned, the device is triggered with a relatively low frequency, for instance a frequency in the region of once every five years to 300 annually. A typical activating frequency is twenty times per annum.

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Basically, the coupling device comprises two axially, generally cylindrical interacting surfaces on two interacting parts in the form of a cylindrical sleeve and a cylindrical shaft respectively, wherein the sleeve is in a torque-transmitting frictional contact with the shaft for transmission of torque up to a corresponding limit, after which the sleeve begins to slide or slip relative to the shaft. The frictional engagement can be adjusted to a selective level with the aid of some suitable technique. For instance, the sleeve may include a concentric ring-chamber that can be placed under pressure. The coupling device includes one or more pumps that function to pump liquid from a liquid store to the gap between the interacting surfaces, such that the liquid will form a hydrostatic layer together with said interacting surfaces. The pumps are intended to be driven by relative rotation between said parts. As a result of pumping liquid in between the mutually co-acting surfaces, said surfaces are able to slide relative to one another immediately the set torque is exceeded. This enables damage to the coupling device and to the motor or rolling mill to be avoided. A torque-limiting coupling device of this known kind need only rotate through barely one revolution in order to generate an hydrostatic layer for which the torque is reduced to a level close to zero.

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When the device is triggered, it is necessary to stop the drive completely. The pumps in the coupling device will then stop pumping liquid (oil) in between the mutually interacting

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surfaces. This enables the liquid to drain away through channels, whereupon the frictional engagement between said mutually interacting surfaces is re-established within the space of about 1 minute. The torque limit can be chosen within a wide range, and can be set with a high degree of accuracy, for instance $\pm 10\%$ from a desired value. The coupling device
5 also has compact dimensions.

Problems associated with this known device reside in the possibility of all or part of the liquid/oil contained in the device leaking away before the device is triggered, or caused by a change in the properties of the oil with time, contamination of the oil with particles that
10 can be formed, for instance, in conjunction with triggering the device and that clog valves, filters, and disturb or interfere with the function of the device, and so on.

There is therefore a certain risk that this known device will malfunction when triggered. Malfunctioning of the device would mean that the mutually interacting surfaces would not
15 be separated sufficiently and that insufficient oil would be pressed in between the interacting surfaces. The malfunction may then cause a very high torque to be transferred via the device in spite of everything else, therewith resulting in damage to the motor and driven equipment for instance, and also such as to cause serious damage to the coupling device itself. Particularly with a view to the consequence of such a malfunction (compare
20 the idling cost), the type of device concerned has not found particularly wide use in practice, despite the ability of the device to enable automatic and fast resetting with normal triggering of the device, and thereby a fast return to plant operation after having removed or rectified the triggering cause.

25 An object of the invention is to provide a further development of the device for limiting the effect of a device malfunction, and thus limit the temporary shutdown time required for the arrangement to reset the device subsequent to a malfunction occurring when the device is triggered as a result, for instance, of insufficient oil being pumped in between the mutually interacting surfaces of the device.

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This object is achieved with a device according to Claim 1.

Further embodiments of the device will be apparent from the accompanying dependent Claims.

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Whereas the interacting surfaces of the conventional device are comprised of lightly alloyed carbon steel that has been nitrogen case hardened to a depth of about 0.3 mm and has a hardness of about 700 Vickers, it is now proposed in accordance with the invention that one of said parts carries a surface layer which defines one of the interacting surfaces and which is comprised of a material that has a substantially lower plasticizing limit than the interacting surface of the other part. The surface layer may have a thickness of some millimetres, for instance 5 mm, and may, for instance, be comprised of a tin-copper alloy of the tombak kind, i.e. 90% Cu, 10% Sn, 1% Pb, for instance. Such an alloy has an elastic limit of about 100 N/m². The surface layer may also include cavities in the form of grooves on its free surface. These grooves are able to form liquid distribution channels for the bearing function. Alternatively, the cavities in the outer layer may contain other recesses or hollows. The reason for these cavities in the surface layer is to ensure that the surface layer material, for instance when melting, has a volume that is smaller than the space between sleeve and shaft originally occupied by the surface layer. Because the plasticization is meant to eliminate the transmission of power between sleeve and shaft, the cavities in the surface layer will preferably be dimensioned to take into account the fact that the inner diameter of the sleeve decreases when relieved of load, and that the outer diameter of the shaft increases when the load on the shaft is removed, such that the space available for the surface layer will decrease. The layer material shall thus preferably have a net volume that is smaller than the volume for the space between sleeve and shaft after eliminating the radial stress therebetween, and also with respect to the temperature conditions when plasticizing or melting the surface layer (i.e. corresponding volume deviations in respect of the surface layer, the sleeve and the shaft) so that the sleeve is able in principle to rotate free from contact with the plasticized surface layer subsequent to relative rotation between the sleeve and the shaft. This reduces the risk of the surface layer material being supplied with energy in such quantities as to cause the material to melt as a result of relative rotation between the two main parts of the coupling device.

Plasticization of the surface layer causes successive reduction in the liquid limit or yield stress of the surface layer material. This surface layer enables the torque that is transferred when the hydrostatic bearing function cannot be maintained to be limited. The power transmission between the input shaft of the coupling device and its output shaft can be monitored and stopped with the aid of external means, for instance by detecting a possible

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difference in the speed between the input and output parts of the device, for limiting the relative rotation between said parts.

The invention is effective in preventing damage to the driven equipment and also to the driving equipment, and also limits damage to the torque-limiting device.

The coupling can be readily renovated subsequent to plasticization (melting of the surface layer), by heating said layer and that part (the shaft) that carries the surface layer. Because the surface layer is comprised of material (tombak) that has a high coefficient of thermal expansion, the layer will loosen from the base of said part (the shaft) and easily drawn off the shaft. A replacement surface layer in the form of a tombak-sleeve can be simply inserted into/pushed over the part concerned (10, 20) and fastened thereto by means of a glue joint, for instance, this joint being destroyed by the heat applied in the renovating process or in conjunction with plasticization of the surface layer.

The invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 is a schematic axial sectioned view of a torque-limiting coupling device.

The device illustrated in Figure 1 is based fundamentally on the device according to WO 90/00231, the teachings of which are incorporated in this document.

The coupling device basically comprises a cylindrical trunnion 10 and a sleeve 20 that embraces the trunnion/shaft 10, said shaft 10 and sleeve 20 have respective flange connections 11 and 21 for connecting up a drive system, for instance a large electric motor and a roll belonging to a steel rolling mill. The sleeve 20 has an inner surface 22 that co-acts with an outer surface 12 on the shaft 10. There is included in the sleeve wall an oil chamber A that can be placed under pressure by pumping-in oil at a pressure, e.g., in the range of 0-50 mPa, to cause frictional engagement at the interface B between the mutually co-acting surfaces 12, 22. The frictional grip and the maximum torque that can be transferred are determined by the oil pressure in the chamber A. After pumping oil into the chamber A via a filling channel, a valve (not shown) in the channel (not shown) is closed.

The cylindrical part 20 includes a hub 30 which is mounted for rotation co-axially with the part 20. The hub 30 carries on its outside a bearing 5 which is eccentric with respect to the hub axle. A number of oil pumps 3 operate radially between the bearing 5 and an inner surface of said part. The pumps have associated channels 4 through which oil is pumped to the interface B, for instance to its longitudinal centre region. The oil spreads along the interface and can, for instance, be collected-up via a channel 41 at one end of the interface B and returned to the pump space. A quantity of oil may be enclosed internally in the pump space, so as to be sucked up by respective pumps immediately and pressed out to the interface B upon relative rotation between the parts 10, 20. The pumps 5 will be set into operation upon such relative rotation, owing to the eccentricity of the outer surface of the hub 30 (the eccentric position of the bearing 5 relative to the parts 10, 20). The part of the shaft 10 that co-acts with the sleeve 20 has a surface layer 50 of tombak (90% Cu, 10% Sn, 1% Pb). The layer 50 has grooves 51 in its free main surface. The grooves 51 may also be utilised as oil distributing channels for distributing oil from the pumps 3. Oil is pumped from the pump 3 to the longitudinal centre region of the interface B, via the channel 40, and flows from there axially to both ends of the interface B, as shown by the arrows in the Figure. A flow of oil is transferred directly to the pump chamber, and an oil part-flow is collected via the channel 41 extending back to the oil pump chamber.

There is located between the shaft 10 and the sleeve 20 a space which is filled completely by the layer 50, with the exception of the grooves 51 in said layer. The grooves 51 also serve to receive parts of the layer 50 that are plasticized as a result of relative rotation between the parts 10, 20. The surface 22 of the part 20 is comprised of steel and co-acts with the tombak surface of the layer 50. The tombak layer 50 is able to transfer the torque at normal torque. However, when the torque load exceeds the pre-set value, the steel surface 22 will begin to slide relative to the tombak layer 50. The friction heat and/or the relative movement causes the layer 50 to deform rapidly, as a result of plasticization or melting. The grooves 51 enable the material in the surface of the layer 50 to be displaced radially in a direction away from the surface 22. The net volume of the layer should be accommodated appropriately in the space between the sleeve and the shaft, subsequent to the sleeve and shaft having been relieved of load in a radial direction and in view of the state and temperature of the deformed surface layer. This reduces the risk of the material 50 receiving so much energy as to cause the material to melt. The plasticization results in a successive reduction in the liquid limit of the material. Normally, the material 50 will not

pass into a molten phase. As a result of plasticization of the material 50 and the displacement of said material, the power transmission between the parts 10, 20 will be limited if the pumps 3 are not able to pump oil into the interface B.

- 5 The frictional engagement between the shaft and the sleeve can, of course, be established with means other than pressurising the hydraulic chamber A as in the illustrated embodiment. For instance, the sleeve and the shaft may be conical and driven axially together so as to achieve a chosen frictional grip, i.e. a chosen upper torque transmission limit. When the sleeve and the shaft have pre-selected dimensions to achieve a given
- 10 frictional grip, the grip can be achieved by so-called heat shrinkage or by press-fitting the sleeve to the shaft. When the frictional grip is eliminated, i.e. when the radial stress between shaft and sleeve is removed, the outer diameter of the shaft will increase and the inner diameter of the sleeve will decrease. The outer layer should therefore be dimensioned so that its net volume can be accommodated, with a given margin, in the space between the
- 15 sleeve and the shaft when the friction joint has been eliminated, i.e. when the load on the sleeve and the shaft has been removed radially. Thus, by forming the outer layer 50 with a material that has a relatively low plasticizing limit, it is possible to trigger an initial rotation between the parts 10, 20 in the absence of an oil film therebetween, at a relatively low torque limit that, nevertheless, lies above the torque limit established by the friction
- 20 grip between the parts 10, 20 as a result of the initial plasticization of the surface layer material. The material 50 can be said to form a lubricant in the interface between shaft and sleeve. When ensuring that the surface layer can be accommodated in the resultant gap between sleeve and shaft after having relieved the same of load in a radial direction, the transfer of energy to the material of the layer 50 is minimised, as is also the transmission of
- 25 energy between the shaft and the sleeve.

In order for the surface layer to be able initially to transfer energy between said two parts, on the one hand, and to collapse and take a state of considerable smaller radial thickness, on the other hand, the outer layer may also include other recesses or hollows additional to

30 the functional grooves on its free surface, for instance pores or the like, in its initial state.

CLAIMS

1. A torque-limiting coupling device comprising two coaxial, generally cylindrical co-acting surfaces (12, 22) on two co-acting parts (10, 20) in the form of a cylindrical sleeve (20) and a cylindrical shaft (10) respectively, wherein the sleeve is in frictional engagement with the shaft for transmission of torque up to a limit that corresponds to the frictional engagement and at which the sleeve begins to rotate relative to the shaft, and further comprises at least one pump means (3) which, upon relative rotation between the sleeve and the shaft, is driven to pump liquid from a liquid storage to a gap (B) between the co-acting surfaces (12, 22), wherein means (41) are provided for carrying away liquid from the gap (B) so as to restore the frictional grip after having exceeded the torque limit, **characterised** in that one part (10) includes a base that has a surface layer (50) which defines one (12) of said co-acting surfaces and which is comprised of a material that has a plasticizing limit which is substantially lower than the plasticizing limit of the material in the co-acting surface (22) of the other part (20).
2. A device according to Claim 1, **characterised** in that the surface layer (50) includes cavities (51) which enables said surface layer to move away from the co-acting surface (22) of said other part upon plasticization.
3. A device according to Claim 2, **characterised** in that the cavities consist of grooves (50) disposed around the circumference and located on the co-acting surface of the surface layer.
4. A device according to any one of Claims 1-3, **characterised** in that the surface layer (50) is comprised of tombak; and in that the co-acting surface of the other part is comprised of steel.
5. A device according to any one of Claims 1-4, **characterised** in that said parts (10, 20) are mutually tensioned radially to establish said friction grip.
6. A device according to any one of Claims 1-5, **characterised** in that the surface layer (50) includes cavities which allow the surface layer to take a radial thickness that is smaller than the radial distance between the surface of the base and the co-acting surface (22) of

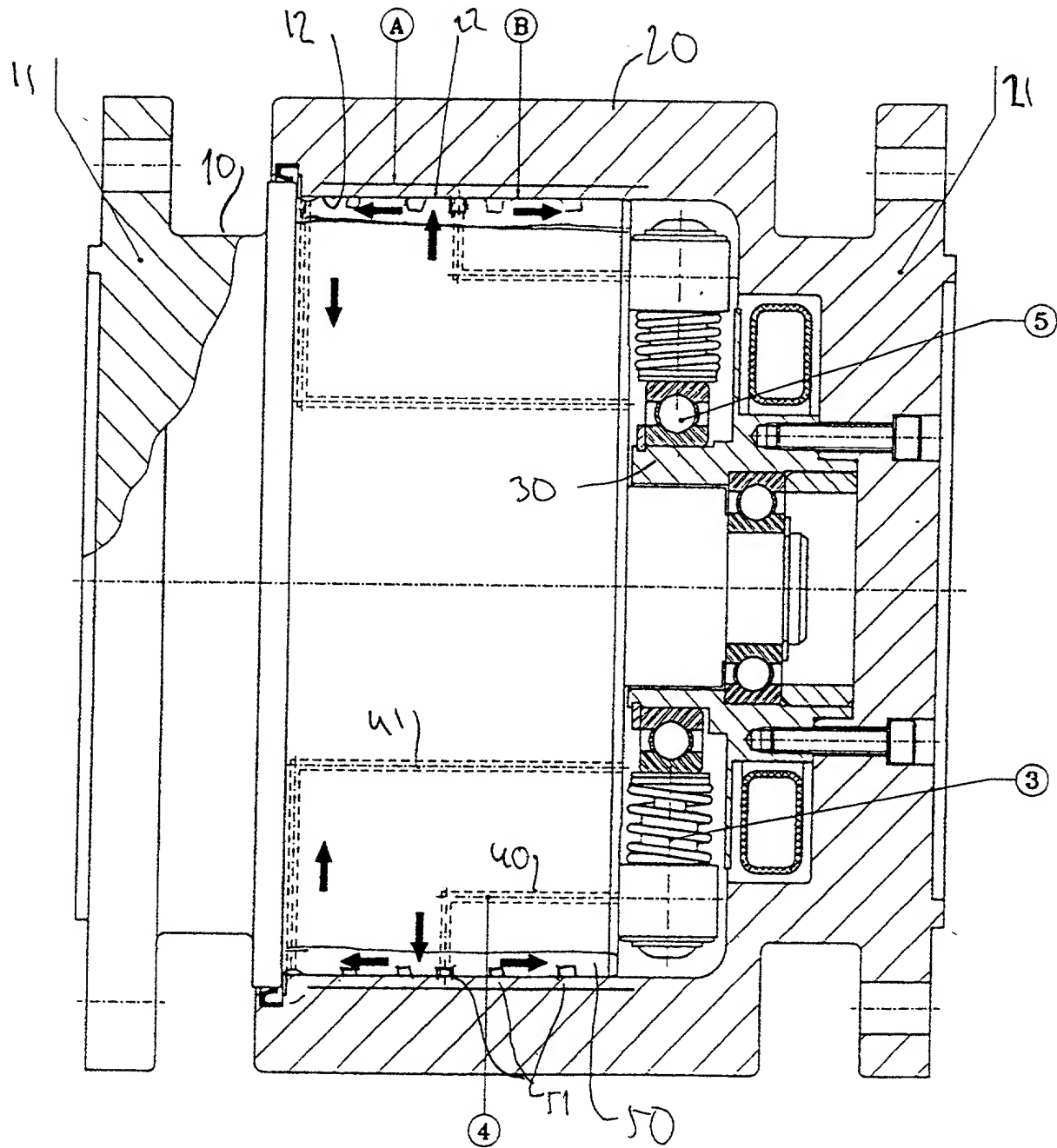
said other part (20) subsequent to plasticization and/or melting of the surface layer (50) and radially relieving the parts (10, 20) of load.

7. A device according to any one of Claims 1-6, **characterised** in that the surface layers
5 are comprised of a material whose coefficient of thermal expansion is higher than the coefficient thermal expansion of the base.

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ABSTRACT

A torque-limiting coupling device comprises two coaxial, essentially cylindrical co-acting surface (12, 22) on two co-acting parts (10, 20) in the form of a cylindrical sleeve (20) and a cylindrical shaft (10) respectively. The sleeve and the shaft are in radially tensioned frictional engagement for transferring torque up to a torque limit that corresponds to the radial tension and at which the sleeve begins to rotate relative to the shaft. The device also includes at least one pump means (3) which is adapted to be driven to pump liquid from a liquid store to a gap (B) between the co-acting surfaces (12, 22) upon relative rotation between the sleeve and the shaft. Means (8) are provided for leading liquid away from the gap (8) so as to re-establish said frictional grip subsequent to the occurrence of relative rotation between said parts. One part (10) has a base which includes a surface layer (50) that defines one (12) of the co-acting surfaces and that is comprised of a material, e.g. tombak, whose plasticizing limit is considerably lower than the plasticizing limit of the material in the co-acting surface of the other part (20). The surface layer (50) includes cavities which enable the surface layer (50) to take a smaller radial thickness after plasticization to enable the parts (10, 20) to be relieved of radial load.



**DECLARATION
AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
U.S.A.**

FOR ATTORNEYS' USE ONLY

ATTORNEYS' DOCKET NO.

ALL PATENTS, INCLUDING DESIGN,
FOR APPLICATION BASED ON PCT, PARIS CONVENTION;
NON PRIORITY; OR PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS

As a below named inventor, I declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are stated below next to my name, the information given herein is true, that I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed at 201 below), or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below at 201-203, or on additional sheets attached hereto) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which patent is sought on the invention entitled:

A TORQUE-LIMITING COUPLING DEVICE

which is described and claimed in: ☒ PCT International Application No. SE00/02101 filed 27 October 2000
☐ the attached specification ☐ the specification in application Serial No. _____ filed _____
(if applicable) and amended on _____

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

9903911-7 Sweden 29/10/1999
(Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year Filed)

☒ Yes ☐ No

(Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐ Yes ☐ No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No. _____ Filing Date _____ Application No. _____ Filing Date _____

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status: patented, pending, abandoned)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys (Registration No.) to prosecute this application, receive and act on instructions from my agent, and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. HARVEY B. JACOBSON, JR. (20,851); JOHN CLARKE HOLMAN (22,769); MARVIN R. STERN (20,640); ALLEN S. MELSER (27,215); MICHAEL R. SLOBASKY (26,421); JONATHAN L. SCHERER (29,851); IRWIN M. AISENBERG (19,007); WILLIAM E. PLAYER (31,409); YOON S. HAM (45,307) and NATHANIEL A. HUMPHRIES (22,772)

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(please use Attorney's Docket No.) (202) 638-6666

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PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

*Inventor(s) name must include at least one unabbreviated first or middle name.

201	FULL NAME * OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <u>FALK</u>	GIVEN NAME <u>Curt</u>	MIDDLE NAME
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	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS <u>Kråkövägen 24</u>	CITY <u>Hudiksvall</u>	STATE OR COUNTRY <u>Sweden</u>
			ZIP CODE <u>S-824 51</u>	
202	FULL NAME * OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	GIVEN NAME	MIDDLE NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY
			ZIP CODE	
203	FULL NAME * OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	GIVEN NAME	MIDDLE NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY
			ZIP CODE	

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code; and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201*	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202*	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203*
DATE <u>March 25, 2002</u>	DATE	DATE

☐ Additional inventors are named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.